

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a leather-like sheet, wherein a skin-like layer composed of a resin composition (C) is formed on top of a fibrous substrate (E), the process comprising:[[:]]

heating and melting a moisture-curable polyurethane hot-melt resin composition (C) which contains a hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) having isocyanate groups at molecular terminal ends and a colorant (B), and

applying said heated and melted resin composition (C) to either [1]a releasable substrate (D) and then bonding the coated surface to a fibrous substrate (E), or [2] a fibrous substrate (E) and then bonding the coated surface to a releasable substrate (D);

wherein the colorant (B) contains a polyol with a number average molecular weight within a range from 1,000 to 20,000 as a vehicle (B-1), and a pigment (B-2).

Claim 2 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to claim 1, wherein said hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) is obtained by reacting a polyol that comprises at least 40% by mass of polytetramethylene glycol with a polyisocyanate.

Claim 3 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said polyol with a number average molecular weight within a range from 1,000 to 20,000 is a polyoxyalkylene glycol.

Claim 4 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said releasable substrate has an indentation pattern.

Claim 5 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said moisture-curable polyurethane hot-melt resin composition (C) is obtained by mixing said hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) and said colorant (B) in a heated and melted state.

Claim 6 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to claim 2, wherein said polyol that comprises at least 40% by mass of polytetramethylene glycol also comprises a polyester polyol.

Claim 7 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) is a prepolymer which when subjected to moisture curing yields a cured product with a glass transition temperature within a range from -70 to 25°C.

Claim 8 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) also contains hydrolysable alkoxysilyl groups at molecular terminal ends.

Claim 9 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said polyisocyanate is xylylene diisocyanate.

Claim 10 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein an isocyanate group content within said hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) is within a range from 0.5 to 10.0% by mass.

Claim 11 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said hot-melt urethane prepolymer (A) has a melt viscosity at 125°C, measured using a cone-plate viscometer, within a range from 100 to 100,000 mPa·s.

Claim 12 (Original): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said fibrous substrate (E) has a porous resin layer on a surface thereof.

Claim 13 (New): A process for producing a leather-like sheet according to claim 1, the process further comprising the step of:

releasing substrate (D) from the resin composition (C), after the releasable substrate (D), the resin composition (C), and the fibrous substrate (E) are laminated in this order.